

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: INTER-ACADEMY AGREEMENT: JOINT SEMINAR ON
EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY

REF: STATE 087962

1. GOSLIN AND CAMPBELL OF NAS SPOKE VIA TELEPHONE APRIL 6
WITH LOMOV AND SOKOLOV ABOUT SOVIET ATTENDANCE AT PSYCHO-
LOGY SEMINAR. SOKOLOV REGRETTEED THAT HE COULD NOT ATTEND
BECAUSE OF LATE SUBMISSION OF HIS SEMINAR PAPER AND REQUEST
FOR TRAVEL DOCUMENTS. LOMOV INDICATED HE WOULD TRY TO
REINSTATE FULL PARTICIPATION AS EARLIER AGREED.

2. FOLLOWING TELEPHONE CONVERSATION, HANDLER SENT
ALEKSANDROV TELEX MESSAGE URGING FULL PARTICIPATION. IN-
ASMUCH AS SEMINAR STILL NOT OUT OF JEOPARDY, NAS WOULD BE
GRATEFUL FOR ANY ASSISTANCE EMBASSY CAN GIVE IN PERSUADING
SOVIET ACADEMY TO SEND ALL PARTICIPANTS ON SCHEDULE, AND
FOR ANY NEWS EMBASSY OBTAINS, INCLUDING CONFIRMATION
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RECEIPT HANDLER MESSAGE. AS MENTIONED REFTTEL, DEPARTMENT
IS PREPARED TO EXPEDITE VISAS. EMBASSY MAY ALSO WISH TO
DRAW ON POINTS IN HANDLER-ALEKSANDROV MESSAGE, TEXT OF
WHICH FOLLOWS:

(BEGIN TEXT.)

ACADEMICIAN A. P. ALEKSANDROV, PRESIDENT, ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF U.S.S.R.

AS YOU WILL BE AWARE, THE FOREIGN SECRETARY OF THIS ACADEMY, GEORGE HAMMOND, SENT A MESSAGE TO G. K. SKYRABIN, CHIEF SCIENTIFIC SECRETARY OF YOUR ACADEMY ON APRIL FIVE, EXPRESSING OUR DEEP CONCERN ABOUT LAST MINUTE CHANGES IN ARRANGEMENTS MADE BY YOUR ACADEMY FOR THE FIRST SEMINAR IN A SERIES OF JOINT SEMINARS BETWEEN OUR TWO ACADEMIES IN EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY.

ON DECEMBER FOURTEEN TO SIXTEEN, 1977, PROFESSOR RICHARD THOMPSON, U.S. CO-CHAIRMAN OF THIS SEMINAR, DISCUSSED WITH DR. BORIS F. LOMOV, DIRECTOR OF YOUR INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGY, HIS COUNTERPART, THE LIST OF POTENTIAL SOVIET PARTICIPANTS IN THIS SEMINAR AND EXPRESSED HIS PLEASURE AT THE PRELIMINARY SELECTION OF FIFTEEN PARTICIPANTS. ON MARCH SEVENTEEN, WE RECEIVED FROM YOUR ACADEMY A FINAL LIST OF YOUR DELEGATION, CONSISTING OF TWELVE MEMBERS DRAWN FROM THE PREVIOUS LIST OF FIFTEEN. YOUR ACADEMY ALSO CONFIRMED THE ARRIVAL OF THE DELEGATION ON APRIL NINE IN NEW YORK. ON APRIL FIVE, WE WERE INFORMED BY YOUR ACADEMY THAT ONLY TEN SOVIET PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE ABLE TO ATTEND THE MEETING AND THAT, OF THIS TEN, SIX WOULD ARRIVE TOO LATE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST TWO DAYS OF THE SEMINAR.

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ALL OF THE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH HAD BEEN MADE BY OUR ACADEMY WERE BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THERE WOULD BE TWELVE SOVIET PARTICIPANTS AND THAT ALL OF THEM WOULD ARRIVE ON APRIL NINE IN NEW YORK SO THAT THE MEETING CAN BEGIN IN CALIFORNIA ON APRIL ELEVEN. FOLLOWING RECEIPT BY YOUR ACADEMY OF DR. HAMMOND'S MESSAGE, DR. DAVID GOSLIN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OUR ACADEMY'S ASSEMBLY OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES, CONSULTED BY TELEPHONE WITH DR. LOMOV ON THURSDAY, APRIL SIX, TO DISCUSS THESE MAJOR PROBLEMS THAT HAVE DEVELOPED IN THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS SEMINAR. WE WERE PLEASED TO LEARN THAT YOUR ACADEMY IS MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO RESOLVE SATISFACTORILY THESE PROBLEMS.

ON BEHALF OF THIS ACADEMY AND OF THE AMERICAN SCIENTISTS PLANNING TO TAKE PART IN THIS SEMINAR, I MUST EMPHASIZE TO YOU THE IMPORTANCE OF ASSURING THAT, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE ENTIRE DELEGATION OF TWELVE AGREED-UPON SCIENTISTS ARRIVES IN THE U.S. ON APRIL NINE. IF PLANS

FOR THE MEETING, AS AGREED UPON, CANNOT BE REINSTATED BY

YOUR ACADEMY, THE SUCCESS OF THE FIRST SEMINAR IN THIS SERIES WILL BE SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZED. MY COLLEAGUES AND I REGARD THE SERIES AS OF PARTICULAR IMPORTANCE IN THAT IT REPRESENTS THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT JOINT ACTIVITY IN THE BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES BETWEEN THE TWO ACADEMIES.

THIS ACADEMY MUST KNOW BEFORE CLOSE OF BUSINESS IN WASHINGTON ON FRIDAY, APRIL SEVEN, WHETHER YOUR ENTIRE DELEGATION WILL ARRIVE ON APRIL NINE AS ORIGINALLY PLANNED. THE RESPONSE WHICH WE WILL RECEIVE FROM YOUR ACADEMY WILL DETERMINE WHETHER WE SHOULD PROCEED WITH THIS SEMINAR.

I HOPE THAT YOU AND YOUR ACADEMY WILL APPRECIATE THE
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SERIOUSNESS OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH THESE LAST-MINUTE CHANGES BY YOUR ACADEMY PRESENT FOR US AND THAT YOU WILL TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO RECONSTITUTE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MEETING AS AGREED UPON IN THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN OUR REPRESENTATIVES IN THIS MATTER.

PHILIP HANDLER
PRESIDENT, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
VANCE

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